

SECRET



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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

00R - 0732

18 January 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)  
THROUGH : Acting Chief, DPD  
SUBJECT : ITEK Proposal for a following on High Acuity Camera

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for the Deputy Director (Plans). Such recommendation is set forth in paragraph 5.

2. Attachment (a) is a memorandum for the DD/P prepared for my signature by [redacted]. It analyzes the ITEK proposal from a technical standpoint, concludes that the new design would bring about a superior and more reliable camera and recommends go-ahead subject to Lockheed's evaluation and assurance that flight schedules can be met for five "C" Prime cameras.

3. Attachment (b) is Lockheed's evaluation. Lockheed concurs in the superiority of the design and recommends go-ahead for four "C" Prime cameras, basing their recommendation on the assumption that the last four "C" Prime cameras will be fired in October and November, 1960.

4. When Mr. Kiefer, [redacted] and I met with BMD in Lockheed on January 14th, we made it clear that the above schedule was not acceptable, and that the last "C" Prime camera must be fired in early October, 1960. With this accelerated schedule, the lead times are such that not more than one, or at the most, two "C" Prime cameras could be changed to the ITEK configuration and be flight ready in time. This is an insufficient number to warrant the effort or the risks inherent in qualifying a new design. Therefore, unless the CORONA schedule is to be extended into 1961 or unless for other reasons (e.g. that the present camera cannot be made to work) there is a major slip-page of the "C" program into 1961, the ITEK proposal should not be accepted.

5. It is recommended that:

- (1) the ITEK proposal not be accepted at this time.
- (2) that if for one reason or another the CORONA schedule is extended into 1961, then at that time the ITEK proposal be reconsidered.

Recommendation in paragraph 5 APPROVED:

SIGNED

(sgd) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

Chief, Development Branch  
DPD-DD/P

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.  
Deputy Director (Plans)

DATE:

18 JAN 1960

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Attachments:

- (a) Memo for the DD/P (COR 0725 dtd 8 Jan 60)
- (b) Lockheed's evaluation

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CH/DB/DDP-DD/P:

Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - CH/DB w/att. (a)
- 1 - DD/P w/atts. (a)(b)
- 1 - AS/DDP w/att. (a)
- 1 - DB/DDP w/ att. (a)
- ✓ 1 - RI w/att. (a)